

**To:** Daniel Bloom[DanielBloom@cqrollcall.com]  
**From:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Sent:** Thur 8/13/2015 1:40:38 PM  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

There you go.

Contact:

[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov) or 970-812-3351

## **Statement from EPA Administrator to Regional Administrators RE: ongoing field work at mines**

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy today sent the below directive to Regional Administrators regarding ongoing field work at mines:

"While we continue to investigate the root causes of last week's release of mining waste at the Gold King Mine in Colorado, we are instructing our Regions to immediately cease any field investigation work at mines including tailings facilities, unless there is imminent risk in a specific case. We are in the process of initiating an independent assessment by a sister federal agency or another external entity to examine the factors that led to last week's incident. Based on the outcome from that assessment, we will determine what actions may be necessary to avoid similar incidents at other sites. While we stand down on existing field investigations and assessments at these mining sites, we also are instructing our Regions to identify existing sites with similarities to the Gold King Mine site and to identify any immediate threats and consider appropriate response actions."

R199

**From:** Daniel Bloom [mailto:DanielBloom@cqrollcall.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 9:37 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Subject:** RE: EPA Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

Robert,

Can you please send my way Administrator McCarthy's official statement made yesterday in

Colorado where she mentioned that EPA will be conducting an official internal and external investigation into the events that triggered the release of the minewater. I need that statement for a story I am writing today! Thanks.

Sincerely,  
Daniel Bloom

**From:** Daguillard, Robert [<mailto:Daguillard.Robert@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 9:35 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Subject:** FW: EPA Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

**From:** EPA Media Relations [<mailto:noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 13, 2015 9:19 AM  
**To:** Daguillard, Robert  
**Subject:** EPA Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release

**CONTACT:**  
[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)  
(970) 812-3351

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
August 12, 2015

***NOTE: We are re-sending this news release in case some of you didn't receive it when we originally sent it late Wednesday night.***

## **EPA Statement on Colorado data from Gold King Mine Release**

**DURANGO, CO** – To assess the impacts of the release at the Gold King Mine near Silverton, Colorado, water quality samples were collected at numerous intervals beginning on Aug. 5, 2015. Samples were

taken prior to the plume's arrival to establish a baseline for water quality comparisons. Each surface water sample was analyzed for 24 metals, including arsenic, cadmium, lead, and mercury.

Analysis now shows that water quality for the Animas River from the Silverton, Colo. area to the Durango municipal water intake has returned to pre-event water quality levels. These results are based on validated sampling data collected from Aug. 5 to Aug. 9, 2015.

EPA has shared this data with state, local and tribal officials in Colorado to assist them in their decisions regarding the on-going use of water resources. EPA plans to continue to monitor, analyze and share data for downstream river segments as it becomes available.

To view the surface water summary table:

[http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-08/q\\_surfacewatersummarytable\\_08-12-15\\_0900.xlsx](http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2015-08/q_surfacewatersummarytable_08-12-15_0900.xlsx)

For additional information on the response to the Gold King Mine release [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).  
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